Fort Belvoir, VA -- The Defense Technical Information Center's (DTIC) special support to the Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) and Historically Black Colleges and Universities/Minority Institutions (HBCU/MI) programs will change significantly October 1, 2003.

After October 1, DTIC will not offer products and services specifically tailored for proposal preparation support to the SBIR bidder community and the faculty/staff of HBCU/MI institutions. Outreach directed to these communities will also be reduced. DTIC services to government agencies, contractors, and potential contractor program participants associated with SBIR and HBCU/MI programs are not affected by these changes.

Also included in the cuts is the SBIR Interactive Topic Information System (SITIS), which DTIC will no longer support after October 1, 2004, a year after the other changes.

After October 1, 2003, SBIR and HBCU/MI users will continue to have:

- 1. Free access to the online technical databases.
- 2. Free download of full-text technical reports.
- 3. Ability to get free electronic current awareness alerts based on personal interest profiles.
- 4. Ability to register for, and receive public release information, including document identification, search strategy assistance and hard copy documents. Established fees will apply for all chargeable services.

After October 1, 2003, DTIC SBIR and HBCU/MI users will not have:

- 1. Prepared bibliographies (OLTIPS) for the SBIR solicitation topics.
- 2. Free hard copy of documents, bibliographies, or current awareness services.
- 3. Systematic identification/verification of SBIR topic author reference citations.
- 4. A DTIC-maintained Web page of HBCU/MI resources.
- 5. A direct outreach program.

SBIR and HBCU/MI customers will continue to have access to DTIC technical databases and the services available to regular DTIC customers at the unclassified, public release authorization level. DTIC Headquarters and Regional Offices will still provide customer assistance.

For more information, call (800) 363-7247 or e-mail sbir@dtic.mil.